

is not moved, & I look with ex-  
treme jealousy upon all Govt.  
interference which is based on  
the principle of driving the people  
by force of law to religious ob-  
servances. I am sorry to  
differ from you on this matter,  
but am quite sure you will  
see that it is a question on which  
all the agreement is not all  
on one side.

I am very aff.

John Bright

W. Geo Osborne  
Manchester.

Sir /

London  
April 24. 49.

I have your letter on the  
subject of Mr. Locke's Bill, & am  
sorry to say that my view of  
that measure does not seem  
to agree with yours. Mr. Locke  
proposes not to compel the run-  
ning of trains on any lines  
on which trains do not now  
run on Sundays, nor does he  
insist on more trains being  
run than are now run on  
any railways. All he pro-  
poses to enforce is this, that

DSI

STATESMEN,

"Will the continental orator be lost in the pr.

where an Engine & post office  
carriage ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> run for the accom-  
modation of the post office, such  
Engine shall have passenger  
carriages attached, in order that  
all means of transit shall  
not be cut off to the population  
on Sundays. Now I confess  
that I approve of this propo-  
sition - it appears to me to be  
demanded by a just considera-  
tion of the civil rights of the  
people, & that no man can  
feel his conscience aggrieved  
who is not compelled to travel  
by these trains on Sundays.

I have no sympathy with those  
scruples of conscience which satisfy  
themselves, or can only be satisfied  
by imposing restrictions on others.  
They who disapprove will not  
travel - they who do not, will  
not be fettered by the scruples  
of others. As to the Directors of  
these lines - it is difficult to see  
how they can innocently run the  
Engine & post office vans, & be  
guilty if another carriage be  
attached in which passengers  
are allowed to travel.

I am for liberty in all things  
where the necessity of restriction

48 Bright (John, 1811-1889) AUTOGRAPH LETTER signed to George Osborne (co-author of the railway guides ?) from London April 24.[18]49. 4 pages, 8vo £25 #68

An interesting letter on the subject of Sunday passenger services. These were forbidden, while the Post Office was free to run mail. Osborne was seeking Bright's support for a Bill by Joseph Locke to enable a passenger coach to be attached to every mail train. Bright says that while he applauds the Bill, it does not go far enough to secure the right of people to travel as on any other day. ". . . I look with extreme jealousy upon all Govt. interference which is based on the principle of driving the people by force of law to religious observances."

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